



Legislative Proposals for the 2013 General Assembly Session

In Priority Order

- 1) AN ACT ADOPTING THE UNIFORM ELECTRONIC LEGAL MATERIAL ACT -
100112_CSL_UELMA**
- 2) AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN FOR THE
PRESERVATION AND AUTHENTICATION OF ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS –
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- 4) AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION GRANTS -
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Agency Legislative Proposal - 2013 Session

Document Name (e.g. OPM1015Budget.doc; OTG1015Policy.doc):

100112_CSL_UELMA

(If submitting an electronically, please label with date, agency, and title of proposal – 092611_SDE_TechRevisions)

State Agency:

Connecticut State Library

Liaison: Kendall Wiggin

Phone: 860-757-6510

E-mail: kendall.wiggin@ct.gov

Lead agency division requesting this proposal:

Office of the State Librarian

Agency Analyst/Drafter of Proposal:

Kendall Wiggin

Title of Proposal

AN ACT ADOPTING THE UNIFORM ELECTRONIC LEGAL MATERIAL ACT

Statutory Reference

Proposal Summary

This bill enacts the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA).

UELMA provides for the authentication and preservation of electronic records of legal material published by the state (e. g., the General Statutes or court cases). The bill does not require the state to publish legal material electronically, but sets certain requirements if it does so and designates the record as official. Among other things, the bill specifies circumstances in which electronic records of legal material are presumed to be authentic copies of the material.

Please attach a copy of fully drafted bill (required for review)

PROPOSAL BACKGROUND

• Reason for Proposal

The Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act was approved by the Council of State Governments (CSG) as "Suggested State Legislation" at the recent National Leadership Conference of the CSG in La Quinta, California. The Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act, drafted and approved by the Uniform Law Commission (ULC) in 2011, is a new state law which establishes an outcomes-based, technology-neutral framework for providing online legal material with the same level of trustworthiness traditionally provided by publication in a law book. It was enacted in Colorado and introduced in California, Connecticut, Minnesota, Rhode Island, and Tennessee in 2012.

The adoption of UELMA was included in Recommendations of the State Librarian for Establishing



Standards and Guidelines for the Preservation and Authentication of Electronic Documents issued in January 2012.

- **Origin of Proposal** ☐ New Proposal ☒ Resubmission

If this is a resubmission, please share:

SB 418 (AN ACT ADOPTING THE UNIFORM ELECTRONIC LEGAL MATERIAL ACT AND THE UNIFORM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE FOR VESSELS ACT) passed the Senate on the closing day of the 2012 regular session but time ran out before the bill could be acted on by the House. UELMA had been paired with the UNIFORM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE FOR VESSELS ACT for no apparent reason other than they were both uniform acts. There were numerous issues with the Vessels Act which affected action on the overall bill. Had UELMA been considered separately, the agency believes it would have passed. The agency strongly suggests that UELMA be considered separately in the next session. Senator Coleman and Rep. O'Neill were the legislators most involved with the bill in the last session.

PROPOSAL IMPACT

- **Agencies Affected** (please list for each affected agency)

Agency Name:

Agency Contact (name, title, phone):

Date Contacted:

Approve of Proposal ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ Talks Ongoing

Summary of Affected Agency's Comments

Will there need to be further negotiation? ☐ YES ☐ NO

- **Fiscal Impact** (please include the proposal section that causes the fiscal impact and the anticipated impact)

Municipal (please include any municipal mandate that can be found within legislation)

None

State

None

Federal

None



Additional notes on fiscal impact

• **Policy and Programmatic Impacts** (Please specify the proposal section associated with the impact)

UELMA provides for the authentication and preservation of electronic records of legal material published by the state (e. g. , the General Statutes or court cases). The bill does not require the state to publish legal material electronically, but sets certain requirements if it does so and designates the record as official. Among other things, the bill specifies circumstances in which electronic records of legal material are presumed to be authentic copies of the material. As the state makes more information available online, UELMA provides a uniform framework for the authentication and preservation of online material.

Insert fully drafted bill here

AN ACT ADOPTING THE UNIFORM ELECTRONIC LEGAL MATERIAL ACT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) Sections 1 to 11, inclusive, of this act may be cited as the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) As used in sections 1 to 11, inclusive, of this act:

(1) "Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic or similar capabilities;

(2) "Legal material" means, whether or not in effect:

(A) The Constitution of the state of Connecticut;

(B) The general statutes of the state of Connecticut;



(C) The regulations of Connecticut state agencies; and

(D) The reported decisions of the following state courts: The Supreme Court, the Appellate Court and the Superior Court;

(3) "Official publisher" means: (A) For the Constitution of the state of Connecticut, the Secretary of the State;

(B) For the general statutes of the state of Connecticut, the Joint Committee on Legislative Management;

(C) For the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, the Secretary of the State; and

(D) For the reported decisions of the Supreme Court, the Appellate Court and the Superior Court, the Commission on Official Legal Publications;

(4) "Official record" means the version of legal material designated by an official publisher as the official version of such material;

(5) "Publish" means to display, present or release to the public, or cause to be displayed, presented or released to the public by the official publisher;

(6) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form;

(7) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) Sections 1 to 11, inclusive, of this act shall apply to all legal material in an electronic record that is designated as official under section 4 of this act and first published electronically on or after July 1, 2013.

Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) If an official publisher publishes legal material only in an electronic record, the publisher shall: (1) Designate the electronic record as official; and (2) comply with sections 5, 7 and 8 of this act.

(b) An official publisher that publishes legal material in an electronic record and also publishes the material in a record other than an electronic record may designate the electronic record as official if the publisher complies with sections 5, 7 and 8 of this act.



Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) An official publisher of legal material in an electronic record that is designated as official under section 4 of this act shall authenticate the electronic record. To authenticate an electronic record, the official publisher shall provide a method for a user to determine that the electronic record received by the user from the official publisher is unaltered from the official record published by the official publisher.

Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) Legal material in an electronic record that is authenticated under section 5 of this act is presumed to be an accurate copy of the legal material.

(b) If another state has adopted a law substantially similar to the provisions of sections 1 to 11, inclusive, of this act, legal material in an electronic record that is designated as official and authenticated by the official publisher in that state is presumed to be an accurate copy of the legal material.

(c) A party contesting the authentication of legal material in an electronic record authenticated under section 5 of this act has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the record is not authentic.

Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) An official publisher of legal material in an electronic record that is or was designated as official under section 4 of this act shall provide for the preservation and security of the record in an electronic form or a form that is not electronic.

(b) If legal material is preserved in an electronic record under subsection (a) of this section, the official publisher shall: (1) Ensure the integrity of the electronic record; (2) provide for backup and disaster recovery of the electronic record; and (3) ensure the continuing usability of the legal material.

Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) An official publisher of legal material in an electronic record that is required to be preserved under section 7 of this act shall ensure that the material is reasonably available for use by the public on a permanent basis.

Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) In implementing the provisions of sections 1 to 11, inclusive, of this act, an official publisher of legal material in an electronic record shall consider:

(1) Standards and practices of other jurisdictions;



- (2) The most recent standards regarding authentication of, preservation and security of, and public access to, legal material in an electronic record and other electronic records, as promulgated by national standard-setting bodies and any standards or guidelines established by the State Librarian or the Public Records Administrator in accordance with sections 11-8 and 11-8a of the general statutes;
- (3) The needs of users of legal material in an electronic record;
- (4) The views of governmental officials and entities and other interested persons; and
- (5) To the extent practicable, methods and technologies for the authentication of, preservation and security of, and public access to, legal material which are compatible with the methods and technologies used by other official publishers in this state and in other states that have adopted a law substantially similar to the provisions of sections 1 to 11, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) In applying and construing the provisions of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act, consideration shall be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact such uniform provisions.

Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) The provisions of sections 1 to 10, inclusive, of this act modify, limit and supersede the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 USC 7001 et seq., but do not modify, limit or supersede Section 101(c) of said act, 15 USC 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in Section 103(b) of said act, 15 USC 7003(b).



Agency Legislative Proposal - 2013 Session

Document Name (e.g. OPM1015Budget.doc; OTG1015Policy.doc):

100112_CSL_ElectronicRecords

(If submitting an electronically, please label with date, agency, and title of proposal – 092611_SDE_TechRevisions)

State Agency:

Connecticut State Library

Liaison: Kendall F. Wiggin

Phone: 860-757-6510

E-mail: kendall.wiggin@ct.gov

Lead agency division requesting this proposal:

Office of the Public Records Administrator

Agency Analyst/Drafter of Proposal:

Kendall Wiggin

Title of Proposal

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN FOR THE PRESERVATION AND AUTHENTICATION OF ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

Statutory Reference Sec. 1-9; Sec. 1-14a; Sec. 1-14b; Sect. 11-8d

Proposal Summary

Extends the definition of permanent records to include electronic records; defines "official record copy" and "essential records" and calls for the protection of essential records to provide for the continuity of government.

Please attach a copy of fully drafted bill (required for review)

PROPOSAL BACKGROUND

- **Reason for Proposal**

In January 2012 the State Librarian issued, in accordance with Section 28 of Public Act 11-150, *Recommendations of the State Librarian for Establishing Standards and Guidelines for the Preservation and Authentication of Electronic Documents*. The report recommended several changes to existing statutes dealing with paper records to encompass electronic records.



- **Origin of Proposal** ☒ **New Proposal** ☐ **Resubmission**

If this is a resubmission, please share:

- (1) *What was the reason this proposal did not pass, or if applicable, was not included in the Administration's package?*
- (2) *Have there been negotiations/discussions during or after the previous legislative session to improve this proposal?*
- (3) *Who were the major stakeholders/advocates/legislators involved in the previous work on this legislation?*
- (4) *What was the last action taken during the past legislative session?*

PROPOSAL IMPACT

- **Agencies Affected** (please list for each affected agency)

Agency Name:

Agency Contact (name, title, phone):

Date Contacted:

Approve of Proposal ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ Talks Ongoing

Summary of Affected Agency's Comments

Will there need to be further negotiation? ☐ YES ☐ NO

- **Fiscal Impact** (please include the proposal section that causes the fiscal impact and the anticipated impact)

Municipal (please include any municipal mandate that can be found within legislation)

Undetermined.

State

Undetermined

Federal

Additional notes on fiscal impact

- **Policy and Programmatic Impacts** (Please specify the proposal section associated with the impact)



As state and municipal government increasingly conduct business electronically, it is essential that the authentication and preservation of electronic records be handled as effectively as paper records have been to insure the orderly conduct of state and local government, to insure public access and to aid in the administration of justice. The proposed statutory changes would extend the State Library's role in the management, authentication and preservation of government records to include electronic records.

Section 1. Sec. 1-9 requires permanent paper for recording purposes. However, a number of other statutes allow records in electronic and other formats. The Connecticut Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (CUETA) establishes the legal recognition of electronic records in Sec. 1-272. Public Act 08-56 established the Uniform Real Property Electronic Recording Act (Sec. 7-35aa-gg), which allowed for electronic recording. Land records are considered permanent records. As a result, Sec. 1-9 needs to be updated to accommodate the preservation of permanent records in formats other than paper.

Section 2. For purposes of authentication, it is necessary to designate an official record copy. The statutory change is necessary to define "official record copy."

Section 3 & 4. Pursuant to Sec. 11-8(a), the State Library is responsible for carrying out a program for the identification and preservation of essential records of the state and of its political subdivisions. The statutes provide no additional information or requirements regarding essential records including what constitutes an essential record.

P.A. No. 495 [1967] revised the State Library's oversight authority for public records to reflect modern records management practices and included an essential records program in cooperation with the Civil Defense Advisory Council. The act did not define "essential record," but the inclusion of the Civil Defense Advisory Council clearly shows the intent was oversight of records vital to the continuity of operations in the event of a serious natural disaster or enemy attack, sabotage or other hostile action. In 1977, the council, renamed the Civil Preparedness Advisory Council in 1973, was eliminated as part of an effort to consolidate and reorganize state government. Reference to the council was eliminated from Sec. 11-8 in 1980. Without this context, a definition, and the use of the term "preservation," many agencies assumed the program referred to historical records rather than critical operating records. Therefore, some state agencies and political subdivisions have not identified these records nor taken measures for their protection.



AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN FOR THE PRESERVATION AND AUTHENTICATION OF ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) Sec. 1-9. [Alkaline paper for] Permanent records. No person having custody of any permanent record or register in any department or office of the state, or of any political subdivision thereof, or of any probate district, shall use or permit to be used for recording purposes any paper other than alkaline paper that meets or exceeds the American National Standards Institute standards for permanent paper and meets such additional specifications as may be issued by the Public Records Administrator, unless such paper is not available. [Said administrator shall furnish to each person having custody of any such permanent record a list of such papers.] Permanent electronic records shall be maintained in accordance with electronic authentication and preservation standards issued by the Public Records Administrator. Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars.

Section 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) Sec. 1-14a. "Official record copy" defined. "Official record copy" means the single copy of a record, often the original, which is designated as the official and legally recognized copy for records retention, preservation, and authentication.

Section 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) Sec. 1-14b. "Essential records" defined. "Essential records" means those records necessary to respond to an emergency; to reestablish normal operations after any such emergency; to protect the rights and interests of the agency; and to protect the rights and interests of individuals for whom it has responsibility.

Section 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) 11-8d. Protection of essential records. (a) In order to provide for the continuity of government during and following a disaster or emergency situation, the administrative heads of all state agencies within the executive branch and of the several towns, cities, boroughs, districts and other political subdivisions of the state, including the probate districts, shall identify their essential records as defined in Sec. 1-14b. The administrative head shall forward a list of essential records to the Public Records Administrator on a form(s) prescribed by the Public Records Administrator. Each administrative head or a designee must review the list at



Agency Legislative Proposal - 2013 Session

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100112_CSL_EgovFund

(If submitting an electronically, please label with date, agency, and title of proposal – 092611_SDE_TechRevisions)

State Agency:

Connecticut State Library

Liaison: Kendall F. Wiggin

Phone: 860-757-6510

E-mail: kendall.wiggin@ct.gov

Lead agency division requesting this proposal: Office of Public Records Administrator

Agency Analyst/Drafter of Proposal:

Kendall F. Wiggin

Title of Proposal

An Act Concerning e-Government and the Preservation and Management of Electronic Records

Statutory Reference Sec. 7-34a and 11-8

Proposal Summary

Establish a seven dollar land recording fee to support the preservation and management of electronic government records at the state and municipal level.

Please attach a copy of fully drafted bill (required for review)

PROPOSAL BACKGROUND

• Reason for Proposal

Connecticut, like many states, has been increasingly moving from paper records to electronic records. While the preservation and management of paper records has been well established, state and municipal governments have not yet implemented procedures and practices to insure the authentication, access and preservation of electronic records. The State Librarian issued a report in 2012 calling for, amongst other measures, the establishment of a Connecticut Digital Archive. This digital archive is currently being planned by the University of Connecticut Libraries and the State Library. However funding is needed to make this a viable trusted repository for state and local government information. State agencies and municipal governments also need assistance, both through training and funding to long term access to government information. The Historic Records Preservation Fund was established in 2000 and is funded with a three dollar fee on land recordings. This highly successful program is the model for the proposed e-Government records management program. The Town Clerks Association has been calling for funding to support electronic records management and state agencies have been approaching the State Library for assistance in managing their move to electronic records.



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- **Origin of Proposal** ☒ **New Proposal** ☐ **Resubmission**

If this is a resubmission, please share:

- (1) *What was the reason this proposal did not pass, or if applicable, was not included in the Administration's package?*
- (2) *Have there been negotiations/discussions during or after the previous legislative session to improve this proposal?*
- (3) *Who were the major stakeholders/advocates/legislators involved in the previous work on this legislation?*
- (4) *What was the last action taken during the past legislative session?*

PROPOSAL IMPACT

- **Agencies Affected** (please list for each affected agency)

Agency Name:

Agency Contact (name, title, phone):

Date Contacted:

Approve of Proposal ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ Talks Ongoing

Summary of Affected Agency's Comments

Will there need to be further negotiation? ☐ YES ☐ NO

- **Fiscal Impact** (please include the proposal section that causes the fiscal impact and the anticipated impact)

Municipal (please include any municipal mandate that can be found within legislation)+

Revenue gain of \$2,775,000

State

Revenue gain of \$1,110,000

Federal

Additional notes on fiscal impact



• **Policy and Programmatic Impacts** (Please specify the proposal section associated with the impact)

The proposal builds on previous legislation to use fees from land recordings to support municipal and state preservation activities. This proposal would establish a new \$7.00 recording fee and a non-lapsing fund to be known as the e-Government records management account. This proposal would allow municipalities to retain \$5.00 of the new \$7.00 fee. Two dollars would be remitted to the state library and deposited in the new account for (1) the preservation and management of records in electronic format maintained by the State Library, and (2) development and implementation of a statewide electronic records management initiative for electronic records created and maintained by state agencies, municipalities and quasi-public agencies. Unlike the Historic Documents Preservation program (Sec. 11-8i-l) there would be no administrative overhead.

An Act Concerning eGovernment and the Preservation and Management of Electronic Records

Sec. 7-34a. Fees NEW (g) In addition to the fees for recording a document under subsection (a) of this section, town clerks shall receive a fee of seven dollars for each document recorded in the land records of the municipality. Not later than the fifteenth day of each month, town clerks shall remit two dollars of the fees paid pursuant to this subsection during the previous calendar month to the State Librarian for deposit in a bank account of the State Treasurer and crediting to the eGovernment records management account established under section 11-8o. Five dollars of the amount paid for fees pursuant to this subsection shall be retained by town clerks in a separate and non-lapsing fund and used for the preservation and management of electronic records in accordance with section 11-8p. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any document recorded on the land records by an employee of the state or of a municipality in conjunction with said employee's official duties. As used in this section "municipality" includes each town, consolidated town and city, city, consolidated town and borough, borough, district, as defined in chapter 105 or chapter 105a, and each municipal board, commission and taxing district not previously mentioned.

NEW Sec. 11-8o. eGovernment records management account. There is established, within the General Fund, a separate and non-lapsing account to be known as the "eGovernment records management account." The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Investment earnings credited to the assets of the account shall become part of the assets of the account. Any balance remaining in the account at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward for the fiscal year next succeeding. The moneys in said account shall be used for the purposes of preservation and management of electronic records as defined in section 11-8p.



NEW Sec. 11-8p. Definitions. (a) As used in sections 11-8o to 11-8q, inclusive, "preservation and management of electronic records" means activities that include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) the use of information technology to facilitate the performance of duties integral to the maintenance and tracking of electronic records; (2) the development of best practices and standards concerning the creation, maintenance and preservation of electronic records; (3) the assessment, implementation or upgrading of electronic records management systems; (4) the development of an essential records program including disaster recovery; (5) the development and implementation of a real property electronic recording system; and (6) the training of personnel to perform duties integral to the maintenance and tracking of electronic records.

NEW Sec. 11-8q. Allocation of moneys in e-Government records management account. (a) The State Librarian shall allocate moneys in the e-Government records management account, established under section 11-8o, for (1) the preservation and management of records in electronic format maintained by the State Library, and (2) development and implementation of a statewide electronic records management initiative for electronic records created and maintained by state agencies, municipalities and quasi-public agencies.



least annually to ensure its completeness. The administrative head or a designee must forward any changes or revisions to the Public Records Administrator.

(b) Each administrative head shall ensure the protection of all essential records by any method approved by the Public Records Administrator. All state agencies within the executive branch and the several towns, cities, boroughs, districts and other political subdivisions of the state, including the probate districts, shall incorporate the protection of essential records into any adopted continuity of operations plan or emergency operations plan.



Agency Legislative Proposal - 2013 Session

Document Name (e.g. OPM1015Budget.doc; OTG1015Policy.doc):

100112_CSL_PLConstructionGrants

(If submitting an electronically, please label with date, agency, and title of proposal – 092611_SDE_TechRevisions)

State Agency:

Connecticut State Library

Liaison: Kendall F. Wiggin

Phone: 860-757-6510

E-mail: kendall.wiggin@ct.gov

Lead agency division requesting this proposal: Division of Library Development

Agency Analyst/Drafter of Proposal:

Kendall F. Wiggin

Title of Proposal

An Act Concerning Public Library Construction Grants

Statutory Reference Sec. 11-24c

Proposal Summary

Increase the state share of public library construction funding from 1/3 to 1/2 while leaving the maximum grant at \$1 million

Please attach a copy of fully drafted bill (required for review)

PROPOSAL BACKGROUND

- Reason for Proposal

The public library construction grant program was established in 1974. Since that time and in response to the library community, the size of the grant has increased from \$200,000 to \$1 million and from no more than one quarter of the cost of the project to no more than one third of the cost. Currently the statute says that the grant shall equal one third of the total cost of the project not to exceed one million dollars. Increasing the grant to cover one half of the cost of the project would reduce the local match for all projects under \$3 million. The agency's research shows that most other states with public library construction grant programs provide at least 50% of the cost of the project. This would reduce the local funds needed and possibly increase the number of smaller projects.

- Origin of Proposal

☒ New Proposal

☐ Resubmission



If this is a resubmission, please share:

This is not a resubmission

PROPOSAL IMPACT

- **Agencies Affected** (please list for each affected agency)

Agency Name:

Agency Contact (name, title, phone):

Date Contacted:

Approve of Proposal ___ YES ___ NO ___ Talks Ongoing

Summary of Affected Agency's Comments

Will there need to be further negotiation? ___ YES ___ NO

- **Fiscal Impact** (please include the proposal section that causes the fiscal impact and the anticipated impact)

Municipal (please include any municipal mandate that can be found within legislation)+

Revenue gain. For projects up to \$3 million dollars, the municipality would receive up to 50% of the project cost instead of 1/3 of the cost. Under the current law a municipality could receive up to \$ 1 million for a \$3 million dollar project. Under this proposal the municipality could receive up to \$1.5 million for a \$3 million dollar project.

State

The proposal does not change the overall amount of funding for the grant program. That is set through the appropriation process.

Federal

Additional notes on fiscal impact

- **Policy and Programmatic Impacts** (Please specify the proposal section associated with the impact)



This proposal would provide more state funding for public library construction projects under \$3 million. There would be no impact on projects over \$3million. Currently on a \$3million project the state share would be \$1 million (1/3 of the total project cost). Under this proposal the state share of a \$3 million project would be \$1.5 million (1/2 of the total project cost). This proposal would help spur library projects in smaller communities by reducing the amount of local money needed to be raised.

An Act Concerning Public Library Construction Grants

(NEW) Sec. 11-24c. Construction cost grants. Priority list. The State Library Board shall make construction grants to public libraries established pursuant to this chapter. The board shall: (1) Establish criteria for the purpose of developing a priority listing of all construction projects, and (2) grant an amount equal to one-third of the total construction cost, not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars for each approved project within the limits of the available appropriation for such projects. In the event that the appropriation is insufficient to fund projects as provided above, projects remaining on the priority list shall be included in the priority listing for the next fiscal year. Each application for such grant shall be filed on or before September first, annually, on forms to be prescribed by said board. For applications submitted on or after September 1, 2007, the board shall grant an amount equal to one-third the total construction cost, not to exceed one million dollars, for each approved project within the limits of the available appropriation for such projects. For applications submitted on or after September 1, 2013, the board shall grant an amount equal to one-half the total construction cost, not to exceed one million dollars, for each approved project within the limits of the available appropriation for such projects.